

Claims:

1 1. Fixed key input apparatus comprising a plurality of keys
2 sufficient to generate input signals corresponding to each
3 letter of the alphabet wherein the keys are arranged with a
4 horizontal key spacing, centerline to centerline, of 10.8 and
5 16.4 millimeters and a vertical key spacing, centerline to
6 centerline of 10.8 and 18.0 millimeters.

1 2. The input apparatus of claim 1 wherein the alphabet is
2 English and the input apparatus comprises at least 26 keys.

1 3. The input apparatus of claim 1 or 2 further comprising keys
2 sufficient to generate input signals corresponding to each
3 numeral.

1 4. The input apparatus of claims 1 to 3 wherein the numerals
2 are arabic numerals and the input apparatus comprises at least
3 36 keys.

1 5. The input apparatus of claims 1 to 4 further comprising
2 keys for generating signals corresponding to a function to be
3 undertaken.

1 6. The input apparatus of claims 1 to 5 wherein the function
2 to be undertaken is selected from the group consisting of:
3 shift, return, control, alt, tab, caps lock, home, end, page up,
4 page down, clear, scroll lock and combinations thereof.

1 7. The input apparatus of claims 1 to 6 wherein the individual
2 key width is 7.2 mm to 13 mm.

1 8. The input apparatus of claims 1 to 7 wherein the individual
2 key depth is 7.2 mm to 15 mm.

1 9. The input apparatus of claims 1 to 8 wherein the individual
2 keys are arranged in a qwerty layout.

Sub B1 > Claims:

1. Fixed key input apparatus comprising a plurality of keys
2 to generate input signals corresponding to each letter of the
3 alphabet wherein the keys are arranged with a horizontal key
4 spacing, centerline to centerline, of 10.8 to 16.4
5 millimeters and a vertical key spacing, centerline to
6 centerline of 10.8 to 18.0 millimeters.

1 2. The input apparatus of claim 1 wherein the alphabet is
2 English and the input apparatus comprises at least 26 keys.

1 3. The input apparatus of claim 1 ~~or 2~~ further comprising
2 keys to generate input signals corresponding to each numeral.

1 4. The input apparatus of ^{claim} ~~claims 1 to 3~~ wherein the
2 numerals are arabic numerals and the input apparatus
3 comprises at least 36 keys.

1 5. The input apparatus of ^{claim} ~~claims 1 to 4~~ further comprising
2 keys for generating signals corresponding to a function to be
3 undertaken.

1 6. The input apparatus of ^{claim} ~~claims 1 to 5~~ wherein the
2 function to be undertaken is selected from the group
3 consisting of: shift, return, control, alt, tab, caps lock,
4 home, end, page up, page down, clear, scroll lock and
5 combinations thereof.

1 7. The input apparatus of ^{claim} ~~claims 1 to 6~~ wherein the
2 individual key width is 7.2 mm to 13 mm.

1 8. The input apparatus of ^{claim} ~~claims 1 to 7~~ wherein the
2 individual key depth is 7.2 mm to 15 mm.

1 9. The input apparatus of ^{claim} ~~claims 1 to 8~~ wherein the
2 individual keys are arranged in a qwerty layout.